

VALLEY OIL AND GAS COMPANY IS LAUNCHED

Thorough Test of the Gas and Oil Possibilities of This Section to Be Made By Ontario Company At Once

On Wednesday of this week, Articles of Incorporation of the Valley Oil and Gas Company were filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Salem, the incorporators being W. J. Weese, H. L. Peterson and W. L. Turner, business and professional men of Ontario.

A year ago, twenty-five of the business and professional men of Ontario formed the Malheur Petroleum Association, W. F. Homan, Frank Rader and S. D. Dorman being elected Trustees of this Association, and are still acting in that capacity. This Association procured the service of Julius H. Fohs, one of the leading geologists of the United States whose field men made a three weeks field survey of the geologic structure of this section of the Snake River Valley, and made a very favorable report for the strong possibilities of gas in commercial quantities and the possibilities of oil of a high specific gravity. He recommended that two or three test wells be drilled in this section to a depth of 2500 feet, if necessary, to thoroughly explore the field. The Association has had several samples of the oil seeps analyzed, and the reports show that the oil indications are of a petroleum base with a high specific gravity.

R. N. Bell, for many years State Mine Inspector of Idaho, in conjunction with Duwilda of the United States Geologic Survey, have made a thorough study of this region and are very enthusiastic over the possibility of natural gas in commercial quantities, between Weiser and Nyssa on the anticlines on both sides of the Snake River. Mr. Bell delivered an address to the citizens of Weiser and to the Elks Club of Boise on this subject and is very favorable toward a thorough test of the local field.

Acres Assigned to Company
Considerable acreage has been leased by the Malheur Petroleum Association and it has agreed to assign to the Valley Oil and Gas Company, a considerable proportion of this acreage for the purpose of drilling the test wells.

J. H. Youngken, a competent oil expert of Oklahoma and Montana, has made a thorough study of the local situation and is very strongly impressed with the possibilities of oil and gas here. He will return from Montana in the near future and assume charge of the drilling operations for the new corporation, which hopes to commence drilling operations by June 15th.

The corporation is capitalized for \$60,000.00, divided into 24,000 shares of non-assessable stock of the par value of 25c per share, and stock subscriptions will be received in the immediate future. Over \$13,000.00 has already been pledged for the enterprise and it is anticipated that there will be no difficulty in disposing of the remainder of the stock in this section of the Snake River Valley. Numerous inquiries have already been received from various parts of the country relative to the development here, and a considerable amount of stock will be sold to outside people who are interested in the development of what may prove to be the greatest asset of this valley. If only commercial gas is secured, it will mean a saving of at least one-half million dollars a year in this section of the country, to say nothing of the cheap fuel that it will furnish, and serve as a stimulus to manufacturing industries who are constantly seeking a location where fuel is cheap.

No Promotion Stock
This Corporation, being formed by the business men of Ontario, will have no promotion stock and every dollar invested will be used in actual development work on favorable geologic sites selected by competent geologists.

The citizens of Payette are very much interested in this development and have had two expert geologists visit this section during the past year, who have also made very favorable reports upon the situation, and it is anticipated that the citizens of Weiser and Payette will contribute liberally in the way of stock subscriptions toward making a thorough test of the Valley.

The reason advanced by the geologists for a failure to procure profitable oil wells in the past is due to the unfavorable structure upon which the previous wells have been drilled. The location of the old Ontario well is especially condemned as being on an unfavorable structure, and the new Corporation will have available, all of the reports of the best geologists in the country, so that the site of the new well when finally determined, will be on the most favorable geologic structure in this section, regardless of its location.

The Company is already in negotiation with two oil drilling companies, to procure the use of equipment and casing for a period of a year's time, in consideration of stock in the Valley Oil & Gas Company, and it is anticipated that the wells will be closed for one or the other of these standard outfits. Mr. Youngken is of the opinion that by securing this equipment, at least two wells can be drilled to a depth of at least 2500 feet during the next

OPINIONS DIFFER AS TO HOW GREAT DAMAGE DONE FRUIT

While some of the ranchers declare that all of the fruit crop is ruined as the result of Monday night's frost, yet there are others who declare that only a portion of the apples were hurt. It is generally believed that all of the cherries, apricots and peaches were frozen and that some of the apples were badly damaged.

LOCAL FIRM LANDS SIX LARGE PIPE CONTRACTS

Concrete Pipe Company To Furnish Material For Oregon and Idaho Contracts—Will Keep Plant Busy For Months

The fame of the product of the Ontario Concrete Pipe Company and the energy of its management together landed enough work during the past two weeks to keep the plant going at full capacity for several months. The contracts recently entered into will send the product of the local factory from Twin Falls to near Huntington, and include a number of contracts in Idaho towns and cities.

A few of the recent contracts include 5,000 feet of big culvert pipe for the Old Oregon Trail Highway from Ontario North; 8000 feet for the Nyssa City Irrigation system; 8,000 feet for the Boise Drainage district; 22,000 for the City of Caldwell Sewerage system. The company is also supplying a large quantity of pipe for the Twin Falls highway district and also for the Nampa Highway district.

The Pythian Sisters held initiation ceremonies Wednesday evening, two candidates from Vale being taken into the lodge. Following the initiation a nice lunch was served. The lodge is planning a picnic soon.

Arden Reed of Brogan was in Ontario Wednesday. Mr. Reed says that the recent heavy frosts have caused no damage whatever to the fruit in Brogan Valley.

J. W. Morrison came down from Jamieson visiting the J. A. Walter family Monday.

Harry Farmer was a Vale visitor Wednesday.

The Ladies Altar Society of the Catholic church will hold their second annual Silver Tea at the home of Mrs. Frank Rader, Wednesday, May 4th.

LEGION BALL TEAM TO PLAY AT FRUITLAND

Ontario Post To Hold Picnic Sunday In Honor of Cast In Recent Production of Fumbles—Smoker Held Monday Evening

At the smoker held Monday evening in the Boyer building Ontario Post American Legion voted to hold a picnic Sunday afternoon near Whitley Bottom opposite McPherson Island, in honor of the cast of the Fumbles which the Legion produced last month.

Proceeding the picnic the Legion Base ball team will clash with the Fruitland aggregation at Fruitland and then the crowd will proceed to the picnic ground.

At the meeting Monday night the lists of names of alleged slackers whose residence was Malheur county was read for checking before it is made public. None of the local men knew any of the men on the list, nor did any of the men present know any of them having been in service.

Two new members were initiated into the post and an impromptu program was held, and the usual refreshments, coffee, and doughnuts served. The attendance was larger than in many meetings and interest in Legion affairs indicated a healthful development.

Ontario devoted its time last Friday afternoon to a general clean-up of the city. During the afternoon the schools and the business houses closed and everyone took part in making the city a cleaner place in which to live.

There was no organized campaign, save as the city secured a number of teams to collect the piles of dirt accumulated in the alleys by the industrious rakes which were wielded by citizens in their own yards.

The business men to a large degree directed their attention to moving the dirt from the alleys of the downtown region, which had hitherto been cleaned more or less since the campaign for a clean-up started. However there was a lot done in the business district and the city is, as the result, cleaner than it has been for some time.

Roy Sato returned from Japan Monday where he went some months ago to take his baby to its mother's people. However, as he was married while in Japan and brought his bride with him, he also brought his baby back again.

Shall Malheur County Try to Get \$100,000 of Highway Funds

The Highway Commission has offered Malheur County \$100,000 to be used on the John Day and Central Oregon Highways from Cairo West, provided the county matches that sum. The county has practically \$40,000 in bonds that might be used for this purpose. Should the county court accept the Commission offer by promising to turn over what it has on hand and pay the balance in annual installments; if the commission will accept such an offer; or should a bond issue be voted for the balance?

What do you think should be done?

Should Malheur County accept the proposal made by the State Highway Commission to turn over to the County \$100,000 of State Highway Funds on condition that the County match that amount for the construction of a Highway from Cairo west; which sum it is estimated will build a highway almost to Harper? Those in favor mark an X before the word, "Yes; opposed before the word, "No".

For Accepting Proposition—Yes.
Against Accepting Proposition—No.

To secure the funds necessary by making a partial payment proposition to the commission, vote as above.

For Partial Payment Plan—Yes.
Against Partial Payment Plan—No.

To secure the necessary funds by issuing bonds; vote as above, yes or no.

For Bond Plan—Yes.
Against Bond Plan—No.

Since the desire is merely to get an expression of the people's desire in this matter it is NOT necessary to sign your name or otherwise indicate the authority of the vote. After marking the ballot, please mail addressed: The Argus, Ontario, Oregon.

SONORA GRAND OPERA SINGERS DELIGHTFUL

Four Audiences Hear Selections From Operas and Enjoy Them—As Usual in Ontario Crowds Smaller Than Concerts Justify

Ontario enjoyed a rare opportunity for a city of this size, when on Saturday and Sunday it had an opportunity of hearing five of the Sonora Grand Opera stars in concert at the Majestic. In bringing a company of this character to Ontario the management of the theatre, in view of previous experiences with attractions of that calibre, deserves commendation; for that is all that it did receive.

However there were more people present at the well-worth-while entertainments than to some of the predecessors, so that it might be deemed an indication that Ontario is growing to like attractions of that nature.

Not only were the offerings of the individual singers excellent but their quartette numbers surpassingly good, and the costumes worn gave that added touch of brilliance so out of the ordinary for small town performances. Truly it is to be regretted that more Ontarians do not sustain the effort to bring attractions of this kind to the city, for in the audience it was estimated Saturday night, fully 80 per cent were from outside points. This in spite of the fact that popular prices prevailed.

CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN MOVES LOADS OF DIRT

Mayor's Proclamation Given General Observance and Beneficial Results Attained Without Organized Effort

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HIGHWAY COMMISSION TO VISIT IN COUNTRY

Invitation Extended By County Court, City and Commercial Club Will Probably Be Accepted Sometime in May

Although no definite acceptance has been received from the Commissioners themselves, the invitation extended them by the County Court, the City of Ontario and the Commercial Club, yet according to the Oregonian of Sunday the commissioners indicated that they would visit Prairie City, Baker and Ontario some time early in May. While in the county meetings will probably be held here and at Vale when the matter of accepting the commission offer of \$100,000 to the county will be discussed.

The County Court has had under consideration the proposal made by the commission but has no definite plan of meeting the requirements. At the present time the county has some \$45,000 available for work west of Vale, but nothing from Cairo to Vale or from Ontario to Cairo. All three of these sections need work upon them badly. Unless something is done this summer all of that region will be cut off from its trading points.

It is necessary that action be taken at this time or another year will pass before the problems can be solved and the County Court in reality should find the solution this month if it is not to lose this offer from the commission.

PLANS PREPARED FOR ANNUAL S. A. DRIVE

J. A. Lakness Chairman and His Committee Prepared to Secure Aid For Home Service Work of Wellknown Organization

Last year there were 65,000 girls who disappeared from their homes and concerning which no trace was ever found. There were thousands of others who were located through the work of the Salvation Army, which maintains rescue homes in every large city in the land. It is true, too, that the majority of the "lost girls" came from country towns and rural homes.

Every year the Salvation Army makes an appeal for aid in its work, which is already familiar to everyone and needs no explanation. All the boys who served in the Army are familiar with its benefits and in many cities and here in Ontario the Legion men are taking an interest in promoting the drive which takes place May 1 to 10.

Ontario and vicinity has been given a quota of \$1250. Of this the city is to take \$650, Cairo and Valley View have been assigned \$190; Dead Ox Flat \$50, Nyssa \$250; Kingman Colony \$50; Big Bend \$50 and Owyhee \$50.

Ontario High School baseball team defeated New Plymouth High School Tuesday by a score of 8 to 2.

ANNUAL MAY DAY FESTIVAL IS TO BE HELD ON MONDAY

The annual May Day Festival of the Grade and High School is to be held on the High School lawn on Monday afternoon. Under the direction of Miss Susman, an elaborate program of 21 numbers will be presented by the school children. Included in the program will be a number of solo dances as well as the group dances of the grade children.

ONTARIO JOCKEY CLUB FORMS ORGANIZATION

Breeding of Ponies and Regular Race Meets in Snake River Valley To Be Promoted—Plan Races For Next Month

The Ontario Jockey Club is the name of the latest organization to be launched in Ontario. At a meeting held here last Friday the following directors were chosen for the new club: P. J. Gallagher, James Blanton of this city and Jerry Watson of Weiser. The officers chosen are P. J. Gallagher, president; John Blanton, vice president and H. H. Tunny, secretary-treasurer.

The members present at the meeting were: Jerry and Jess Watson of Weiser, Ivan Wells and James Reed, Vale, Randall Sage, Nyssa, James and John Blanton, H. H. Tunny and P. J. Gallagher of Ontario.

There are at present in training in this section some 15 or 20 ponies and the purpose of the club is to foster the sport and the raising of running horses. The club plans to hold a series of race meets in the valley, and if possible to hold one here in Ontario during the month of May. Definite plans for financing these meets will be worked out later when additional members to the club have been secured. However sufficient encouragement has been secured already to assure the club of many entries in every race that the ordinary race meet of this type would call for.

ODD FELLOWS GO TO NYSSA TO CELEBRATE FOUNDING DAY

The 102nd Anniversary of the founding of the Odd Fellows Lodge in America was celebrated by the lodges of this vicinity at Nyssa Tuesday afternoon and evening. The program consisted of degree work, entertainments and supper. The Rebekah meeting was held in the afternoon and the Odd Fellows in the evening. Those from Ontario who attended were: Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Skow, Mrs. Maude Dory, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Viernow, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Haw, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Lyells, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Draper, Mrs. Jim Divens, Mrs. J. A. Draper, Mrs. A. S. Whitbeck, Mrs. Dan Purcell, Mrs. Annie Jackson, Dr. and Mrs. Pogue, Messrs. Fred Grawl, Ed Nelson, E. C. McDowell, Roy Cook, Dwight Pierce, O. N. Osted, W. J. Schaefer, A. N. Hickory, J. E. Brutsman, Jim Doty, Vic Marsden, Joe Schall, L. V. Snyder.

VAUDEVILLE ACT COMING SOON

The Majestic Amusement Company announce that they have closed a contract with the Bert Circuit whereby two acts of the Eastern Road Show will be brought to Ontario on Tuesday of each week. The opening pair of performers, consisting of two teams, will appear at the Majestic Theatre on Tuesday, May 3, and will comprise Murray and Irwin, the whistlers from Birdland and Connell and Merrill, a classy duo in classy comedy and harmony singing. This should prove a pleasing innovation to theatre goers.

WATER TURNED IN DITCHES

Water was turned in the ditches the first of the week and many Ontarians are busy watering their lawns and gardens.

COUNCIL DEFERS ALL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Lack of Funds To Prosecute Work; Uncertainty as to Advisability of Proposed Irrigation Cause Council to Pause

Both the proposed improvements contemplated by the City Council, that of street grading and graveling and the irrigation system were laid upon the table by the City Council at its meeting in the Council Chambers last night.

This action followed a general statement by Mayor W. H. Doolittle of the financial condition of the city and the restrictions of the laws governing Hancock districts, which make that plan practically impossible. The only system he could advise the said was a general bond issue.

During the general discussion which followed on each of the proposals W. E. Leen declared: "While I am certain that if a practical plan for these improvements is presented to the taxpayers for their approval it will be granted; yet it seems to me that this is a time for retrenchment and a reduction in taxes. We must retrench or taxation will amount to confiscation of property. Anything that is done now should be well considered and only that which is actually necessary."

"So far as the pumping system is concerned, it is not to be compared with a gravity supply. I believe that a gravity supply is available, for the entire city, including Villa Park. The old ditches on the hill still exist and can be used. By filling on the waste water of the Warm Springs and by buying additional water from them we can irrigate the city."

"We cannot stand for a pumping system with its continual expense. Gravity water will always run for 100 years as it does now. "By putting a pipe from the cemetery hill through the city as a start we can build a gravity system that will solve the problem for the present and it can be added to from time to time as needed."

J. R. Blackaby and C. McGonagill also urged the adoption of a gravity system, and the use of pipelines to avoid flooding; the basements in the business district. The council told the men present of the efforts made to secure a contract with the Warm Springs district which had resulted in a failure and that the pumping plant was the alternative considered, but that no means of financing any proposition had been found.

For the present the city is being irrigated from two sources, the waste water of the Warm Springs and water from the Eastside Irrigation company from which 75 inches has been contracted for this year.

FARM BUREAU DEPRECATES ATTACKS ON COUNTY AGENT

The following resolution was adopted at a meeting of the executive committee of the Malheur County Farm Bureau at a meeting held at Vale last Saturday:

The Executive Committee and Advisory Board of the Malheur County Farm Bureau in session assembled at Vale, April 23rd, after due consideration of the present agitation and movement directed against the County Agent and the Farm Bureau work and having in mind that

Whereas the cost to the County of the County Agent and his work amounts to the individual to but 60 cents on every \$100.00 of tax paid, which sum is several times offset by savings made in crop operations, and

Whereas through such work of the County Agent the farmers of Malheur County are brought into closer touch with the services of State and Government specialists and thereby participate in the benefits derived therefrom, and

Whereas the value of the work rendered exceeds its cost to the taxpayer many times in additional wealth produced in the County,

Therefore Be It Resolved by the Farm Bureau of Malheur County that the continuance of this work be demanded and that before the County Court shall take any action in the near future looking toward a curtailment of the agricultural activities of the Farm Bureau movement an opportunity to be heard shall be given the tax payers of the County who believe in the progressive work now being rendered and which is of value to every tax payer in the County.

C. E. Miles bought a ranch near New Plymouth and will move there soon.

The Woman's Club met Thursday at the home of Mrs. A. S. Brown.

The Episcopal Guild meets today with Mrs. R. W. Swager.

The Ladies Altar Society of the Catholic church will meet at the home of Mrs. Eugene McCoy, Friday, May 13th.

Martin Moore made a business trip to Caldwell Wednesday.

Mrs. Frank Lynch of Nyssa has just returned from a visit to Twin Falls and Seattle and is now residing in Ontario having leased their home at Nyssa. Mr. Lynch left Sunday for the sheep shearing camp to be gone until the sheep shearing season is over.